

d a w n b a r r e t t

doorniksestraat 10

2587XL the hague

netherlands

tel: 31-70.3520277

fax: 31-70.3588205

19 December 1994

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63105 USA
tel. (314) 331 6540

Dear Mr. Newman,

I received your address from Ms. Anne E. Bentley, Conservator of the Massachusetts Historical Society in Boston. The purpose of this letter is two-fold. First of all, I would like to introduce myself to you and the nature of my research on early American paper money design. (Additionally, I would like to thank you for the extent of the scholarship you have already devoted to this subject and which has proved already so helpful to me.) Secondly, I would like to make further inquiry about the Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society, its facilities and services.

1.

For the past year I have been researching the subject of early American paper money, for an article I am preparing for publication in ~~the~~ a scholarly design magazine entitled *Visible Language* (published by the Rhode Island School of Design).

I became interested in the design of early American paper money, when the editor of *Visible Language* asked me to write a piece about Dutch paper money (with which I was already familiar.) I had initially thought it was a good idea to compare the forms of early currency of the two countries, but in the process of doing research on American paper money , I became increasingly interested in the multifarious forms of Colonial and Continental Currency. Throughout my research in American historical archives, I have relied heavily and extensively on the third edition of your valuable reference work *The Early Paper Money of America* as my constant companion and perennial guiding light. As my research continued, I also consulted many of your very informative articles published in *The numismatist* (especially those dealing with the role of Franklin).

My own interest in paper currency, is primarily as a designer and as design educator. I am not a nummatist, nor am I a collector. I am primarily interested in the aesthetic

form of paper currency, the use of technical innovations seen during the period, and the social and political factors that influence the issue and production of paper money. I strongly believe that a rich amount of design history can be told in the story of early American money, and that the American design community would benefit tremendously from exposure to an accurate historical portrayal of these unique examples of currency design and printing.

2.

Your book *The Early Paper Money of America*, contains a great number of marvellous visual examples, which I am sure must have taken a great deal of energy and effort to assemble. My question to you is whether any of these items are in your personal collection or in the collection of the Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society, and whether photographic reproductions of them are ever made available to others for publication elsewhere. If this is a possibility, I should like to learn of the conditions and costs for reproduction rights to your photographic holdings.

Information concerning,

- a) cost per print,
- b) royalty payment to the institute for reproduction rights,
- c) the amount of time necessary to order and receive prints,
- d) method for ordering and payment,
- e) agreed form of acknowledgement, etc.

would be very much appreciated.

Since the deadline for this article approaches with ferocious speed, I would appreciate a response at your earliest possible convenience. (If you have a fax, I should be glad to hear from you via the fax number shown above.)

In any case, I shall look forward to your response, and hope to continue some form of professional dialogue with you on this fascinating topic.

Best wishes, and happy holidays.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Bennett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'J' at the beginning.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dawn B. Barrett
Doorniksestraat 10
2587XL The Hague
Netherlands

3 January 1995

Dear Ms. Barrett:

I have been on holiday in Mexico and found your letter on my return. You have a fascinating subject.

I am primarily a numismatist and any appreciation of design I may have acquired from it is merely a necessary adjunct.

The Early Paper Money Of America only illustrates one denomination of each issue. Many designs are therefore not illustrated. We have several thousand pieces in our collection and we furnish data to others for many purposes. I tried to describe legends and features in the text of the book where illustrations are not used. Most of our illustrations there are photocopies.

If you are being paid for your work we should be reimbursed for our expense. We can furnish Xerox copies much easier than photographic copies and less expensively. There is no royalty. Some people make a modest contribution to us as we are not for profit and run a numismatic library and museum. Tell us your economic situation.

Customary acknowledgement can be in any reasonable form.

We will try to cooperate promptly and if you wish FAX communication our FAX is 314-727-0820. My residence telephone is 314-727-0850. You have my office telephone number.

Please advise us exactly what you wish, particularly if photos are absolutely required or whether excellent photocopies will serve.

Sincerely,



Eric P. Newman

► *Duplicate of earlier*

FAX TRANSMISSION TO:

Mr. Eric P. Newman

Eric P. Newman Numismatic

Education Society

6450 Cecil Ave.

St. Louis, MO 63105 USA

tel. (314) 331 6540

fax: (314)

FROM:

Dawn Barrett

Doorniksestraat 10

2587XL 's-Gravenhage

The Netherlands

tel: 31.70 3520277

fax: 31.70.3588205

NUMBER OF PAGES: 1

11 January 1995

Dear Mr. Newman,

Thank you for your prompt letter and enthusiastic support for my inquiry. I was thrilled to learn that the Eric P. Newman Numismatic Educational Society is willing to help by providing me with some xerox reproductions to use. I know that it will make a tremendous difference to the article to have a truly representative selection of examples. It will make the difference between night and day for the reader, I am sure.

Here is an answer to the question regarding my financial circumstances. The journal for which I am writing (entitled: *Visible Language*) is a scholarly one, and as such makes little or no profit (although it is not officially inscribed as a "non-profit" institution.) Because of it's generally academic nature, there are no funds or royalties for it's authors, therefore, I am not being paid for my efforts for either researching or writing my contribution. (It is an act which I conceive to be done for either love or utter daftness - neither of which, it occurs to me, may be procured or avoided with the possession of money.) Because early American paper money is such an interesting subject, my research has caused me to learn tremendous amount, and this alone seems benefit enough.

Since there will be no financial compensation for this piece, it comes as a very welcome relief to learn of your payment policies regarding reproductions. Surely you must know, if you have not been told so directly, how grateful scholars in my position feel when relying upon the generosity and goodwill shown by your society. As a token of that appreciation I would be happy to make a personal contribution to the upkeep of the Society and would be pleased to learn what amount(s) would be considered appropriate.

Finally, I would like to ask a few details, about what procedures should I follow. Can I fax you a list and send you a check to cover shipping fees. Do you consider a request of 15 examples (photocopies) to be in excess of the present capacities, or willingness of your staff to assemble. And will a request of this kind, how much time do you anticipate will be needed.

I look forward to your reply, and remain thankful for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

January 16, 1995

Dawn Barrett
Doorniksestraat 10
2587XL 'sGravenhage
The Netherlands

FAX 011 31 70 3588205

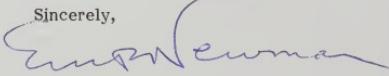
One Page

Dear Ms. Barrett:

Thank you for your 11 January 1995 Fax.

Please send your list of wants and it can be up to 20 items, as I may not have all you request. That might also give you some selection at your end. Please indicate as to the bills whether you wish face or back or both. Describe the bills by category, date and denomination in your Fax. We ought to be able to do our work in 10 days and air mail them to you. You decide whatever amount of contribution for Fax cost, air mail, etc. you think is fair after you receive them.

Good luck.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:bv

1 February 1995

FAX TRANSMISSION TO:

Mr Eric P Newman

Eric P Newman Numismatic

Education Society

6450 Cecil Ave.

St Louis MO 63105 USA

tel (314) 331 6540

fax (314) 727 0820

PRO 36

Dawn Barrell

Door 5 Keyhole 11

2587XL 6-Gravenhage

The Netherlands

tel 31 70 3520277

fax 31 70 3588705

NUMBER OF PAGE 3

Dear Mr. Newman,

Thank you for your fax.

1 . re: photocopies from your collection:

I have finally assembled the list of items I would like to have photocopied from your collection. I hope you do not find it too long. (It's so hard to decide to leave things out). In each case I have tried to indicate the feature that I am trying to show, along with identification of date and value that I think contains this. Wherever an (*) asterix appears in the identification area, this is an indication that it is a feature I am needing rather than that specific value, and the substitution of another value will be fine (and perhaps preferable from the point of reproduction quality) - so long as the example chosen also contains the same feature(s). I thought that this way, the condition of the bill, and its ability to produce a good photocopy, would be the first priority in finding a suitable example to illustrate the feature. I hope it will be clear from the list which follows on page 3 of this fax transmission.

In all cases, my interest is chiefly in the visual appearance of the bill, so choices made between different values etc. should be determined first and foremost by issues of visual clarity (thus, the condition of the bill and it's ability to produce a clear photocopy). When the photocopies are being made, my choice would be for that which shows the print most clearly, and not necessarily the color or texture of the paper.

2 . re: identification

I don't know if your identification labels can easily be copied along with the bills themselves, but if they are this would be extremely helpful. Since I would like to send an accurate list of captions to my editor asap, is it too much work to ask you to fax a list of the items that you have copied and put in the mail.

FAX TRANSMISSION TO
Mr Eric P. Newman
FROM
Dawn Barrett
PAGE 2

3. re: the acknowledgement.

I was intending to use the customary: 'Courtesy, Eric P. Newman' but if you would prefer something else, or the inclusion of the name of your Society, please let me know.

4. critical reading:

This article is running on a very tight schedule (to be published this spring) so I do not know how much time is possible for revisions. But, in the event that the editor is searching for readers to criticize my text I would like to ask if that is something that you would be willing to do, and if I may suggest your name to her as a reader.

On a personal basis, I would very much like to have your input on my text. As I have already explained, I am a graphic designer and educator with no previous experience in American paper currency history, so it is inevitable that my approach to the subject is somewhat naive. But since I felt that it was important for the readers of my article to have a proper historical background for the production and design of these bills, I thought it was necessary to include quite a lot of information about the conditions of their issue. One option would have been to simply refer them to the introduction of your book, and say nothing more in the article, but as this would leave them without immediate access to the history, their appreciation of the visual analysis that follows would necessarily be incomplete. For that reason I have tried to provide an overview. It is this section that I feel could most benefit from a critical reading by a knowledgeable reader capable of pointing out any errors, that I am sure I must have made. Is it possible that I could fax you the "historical" section of my article and get your comments? If this is an inconvenience, or something that you would prefer not to do at such short notice, I hope you will not hesitate to say so.

Sincerely,



DB Barrett - "want list" page 3 of fax transmission - sent to Eric P. Newman - 1 February 1995

- (1) CT / 5/8/40, redated 10/11/44 -- 15s* -- f/back * or any showing using zodiac, etc. type on back
- (2) CT / 8/32 -- 3s* -- f/back * or any showing type configured in unusual shapes
- (3) DE / 6/1/59 -- 5-10s* -- f/back * or any showing nature print and animal
- (4) MD / 1733-RM - any* * any showing print with indented stub still attached
- (5) MD / 7/14/56 -- 20s* -- front/back * or any showing showing typesetting on curved lines
- (6) MD / 7/26/75 -- *4\$ -- front/b * or any showing T Sparrow propagandistic image
- (7) MA / 12/10/1890 -- any -- front
- (8) MA / 10/14/11 -- 8d -- front
- (9) NJ / 6/20/75 -- any -- front
- (10) NJ / 3/25/76 -- 43 -- front / back
- (11) NY / 17/1/09 Silver issue -- 13 *oz...* or any showing "Lyon Dollars" prominently in the text
- (12) NC / 10/19/22 Act -- any -- front (counterfeit OK)
- (13) NC / 8/2/75 -- 1/2; or 8, or 10\$ - front
- (14) PA / 8/10/39 -- 5-20s* -- front/back * any one which shows clear nature print; and front and back do not need to be from the same denomination
- (15) PA / 8/1/46 -- any pence denom. -- front * any showing type set in a curve
- (16) RI / 2/14/43-44 -- any -- front/back
- (17) RI / 1800 etc. Washington Bank -- \$1* - front * or any showing Washington portrait
- (18) SC / 2/8/79 -- 50 or 70 or 90\$ -- f/back
- (19) VA / 7/17/75 -- Ordinance Small notes - PR -- f/back * any showing border with blank interior
- (20) VA / 5/3/79 -- \$50 or \$100 -- front

CODE FOR BACK / FRONT DESIGNATIONS:

f / back = back is essential, but if you can include the front as it will also be useful
front/b = front is essential, but if you can include the back as it will also be useful
front / back = both front and back are needed

Thank you very much. I shall eagerly await to find out what you have available.

Euan

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6850 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dawn Barrett
Doorniksestraat 10
2587 XL 's Gravenhage
The Netherlands

February 8, 1995

Dear Ms. Barrett:

We make photocopies several times to get the best results. We hope this meets the needs in your letter. They are enclosed. All except a couple are provided. You can make the captions from the book.

If you send me your text I'll try to review it if you still want me to do it. I am a numismatist not an artist.

I hope we have been helpful.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

dawn barrett

Graphic Design Department
Rhode Island School of Design
2 College Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903 USA
tel 1 401 454 6175 - fax 1 401 454 6117

250 Williams Street
Providence, Rhode Island
02906 USA
tel 1 401 421 6215

Doorniksestraat 10
2587XL 's-Gravenhage
The Netherlands
tel 31 70 352 0277
fax 31 70 358 8205

10 February 1995

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63105 USA
tel. (314) 331 6540
fax: (314) 727 0820

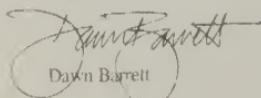
Dear Mr. Newman,

Because I am leaving at the end of next week for the United States, I am writing to say that if you have not already sent out the photocopies to my Dutch address, that from now on, my address at Rhode Island School of Design will be the best place to send any correspondence by post.

I will be here in the Netherlands until the 19th, in the event that you should like to reach me by fax.

Thank you again for your continued help and cooperation.

Sincerely,


Dawn Barrett

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

March 3, 1995

Ms. Dawn Barrett
Graphic Design Dept. (Faculty)
Rhode Island School of Design
2 College Street
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Dawn:

The items sent to you in The Netherlands on February 8, 1995 are sent again at your request. I am glad I kept another set.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:bv